
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2020 No. 620

**The Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution
by Sewage from Ships) Regulations 2020**

PART 5

Enforcement

Power for a harbour master to detain a ship

27.—(1) Where the harbour master of a harbour in the United Kingdom has clear grounds for believing that an offence has been committed under regulation 30(1)(d) or (e) (offences) by the discharge from a ship of sewage into the waters of the harbour, the harbour master may detain the ship.

(2) Section 144(2) and (3) of the 1995 Act (harbour master's power of detention of ships for certain offences) apply to a detention under paragraph (1) as they apply to a detention under section 144(1) of the 1995 Act.

(3) Where a ship is liable to be detained under this regulation, the harbour master detaining the ship must serve on the master of the ship a detention notice which—

- (a) states the grounds for the detention; and
- (b) requires the terms of the notice to be complied with until the ship is released by the harbour authority.

(4) Where a ship is detained under this regulation, the harbour master must immediately release the ship—

- (a) if no proceedings for an offence under regulation 30(1)(d) or (e) (offences) are instituted within the period of seven days beginning with the day on which the ship is detained;
- (b) if proceedings for an offence under regulation 30(1)(d) or (e) (offences), having been instituted within that period, are concluded without the owner, manager, demise charterer or master being convicted;
- (c) if either—
 - (i) the sum of £30,000 is paid to the harbour authority by way of security; or
 - (ii) security which, in the opinion of the harbour master, is satisfactory and is for an amount not less than £30,000 is given to the harbour authority;
- (d) where the owner, manager, demise charterer or master is convicted of an offence under regulation 30(1)(d) or (e) (offences), if any costs or expenses ordered to be paid by that person, and any fine imposed on that person, have been paid; or
- (e) if the release is ordered by a court or tribunal referred to in Article 292 of UNCLOS and any bond or other financial security ordered by such court or tribunal is posted.

(5) The harbour authority must repay any sum paid in pursuance of paragraph 4(c) or release any security so given—

- (a) if no proceedings for an offence under regulation 30(1)(d) or (e) (offences) are instituted within the period of seven days beginning with the day on which the sum is paid; or
- (b) if proceedings for an offence under regulation 30(1)(d) or (e) (offences), having been instituted within that period, are concluded without the owner, manager, demise charterer or master being convicted.

(6) Where a sum has been paid, or security has been given, by any person in pursuance of paragraph (4)(c) and the owner, manager, demise charterer or master is convicted of an offence under regulation 30(1)(d) or (e) (offences), the sum so paid for the amount made available under the security must be applied as follows—

- (a) first in payment of any costs or expenses ordered by the court to be paid by the owner, manager, demise charterer or master; and
- (b) next in payment of any fine imposed by the court,

and any balance must be repaid to the first-mentioned person.

(7) Section 145 of the 1995 Act (interpretation of section 144) applies for the purposes of paragraphs (4) to (6) as if—

- (a) references to the master or owner of the ship were references to the owner, manager, demise charterer or master; and
- (b) references to an offence under section 131 (discharge of oil from ships into certain United Kingdom waters) were references to an offence under regulation 30(1)(d) or (e) (offences).

Commencement Information

II Reg. 27 in force at 22.7.2020, see [reg. 1\(2\)](#)

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution by Sewage from Ships) Regulations 2020, Section 27.